Uniform Policy for Food Processing

342. SHRI N. BALAGANGA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing any uniform food processing policy for the growth of the sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) The need for having an appropriate food processing policy at the national and state levels was highlighted during the 1st Conference of the State Ministers of Food Processing Industries held on 6-10-2009. So far, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have formulated such food processing policies.

Subsidy for FPI

343. SHRI N. BALAGANGA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is having any proposal to increase the subsidy for food processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Ministry only releases the funds in the shape of grants-in-aid to the agencies/entrepreneurs on the basis of applications received, depending upon the availability of funds within the budget provision on year to year basis. There is no proposal to modify existing norms of the extent of grants-in-aid.

Conference of Food Processing Industries Ministers

344. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI N. K SINGH :
Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether conference of State Ministersu of Food Processing Industries was organized at New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held in the conference;

(c) whether there is a need to formulate a National Food Processing Policy to spell out the vision for rapid growth; and

(d) if so, by when a National Food Processing Policy is likely to be announced?